Mow Cop is getting warmer!

Introduction

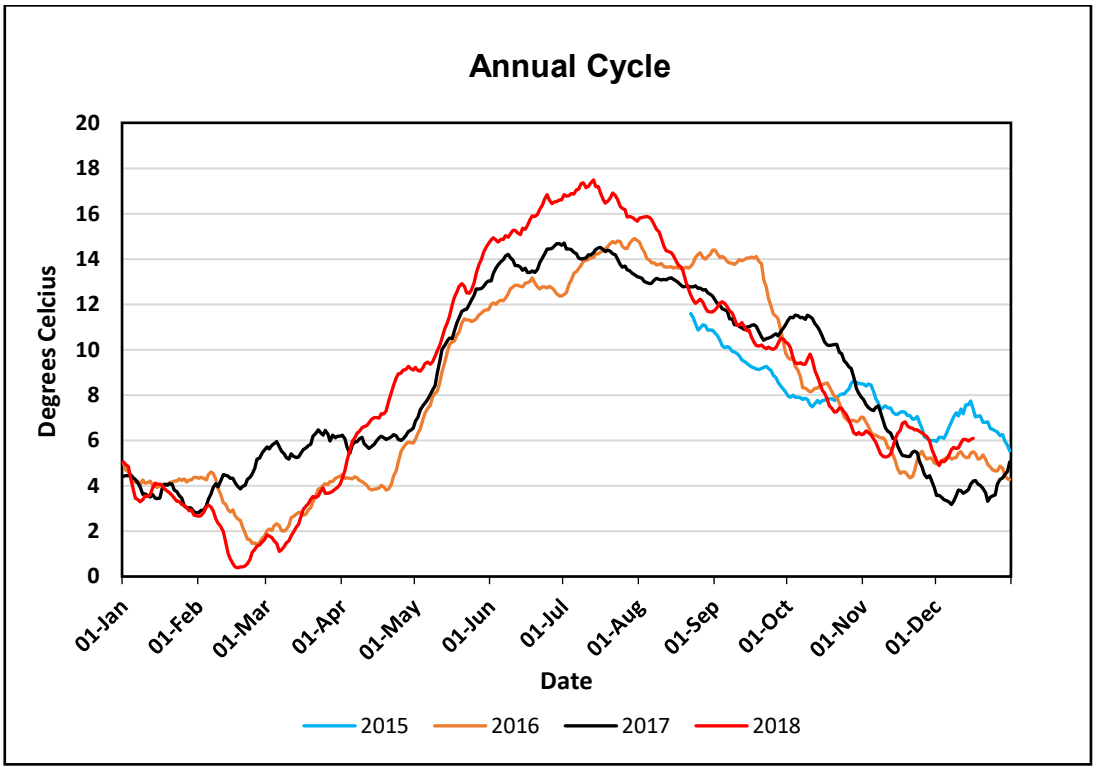
The above photograph is meant to give an impression of a rather hot autumn afternoon as viewed from my back yard in the village of Mount Pleasant looking West.

Global warming is much talked about, but the concept is still viewed with scepticism by many. I shall seek to show in the following that it is not an abstract construct, but an everyday reality that affect us all; the average temperature is slowly rising. I will not claim that this in any way is a scientific study, and I am not a meteorologist and only know about weather patterns what I hear and see on radio and TV.

However, for the last 2-3 years one of my first activities in the morning is to take a reading of the thermometer placed in my backyard and as I am inflicted with Parkinson's disease the intension is to correlate these readings with 'UPDRS' (Unified Parkinson's Disease Rating Scale) observations to see if the strength of symptoms vary with weather conditions. This study is therefore a by-product of this other investigation.

The thermometer, I use, is a simple plastic plate with a glass tube in the middle. The scale is the simple Celcius scale with 0°at the freezing point and 100° at the boiling point, and as indicated above I take the reading soon after getting out of bed. I started the exercise in August 2015.

Annual Cycle



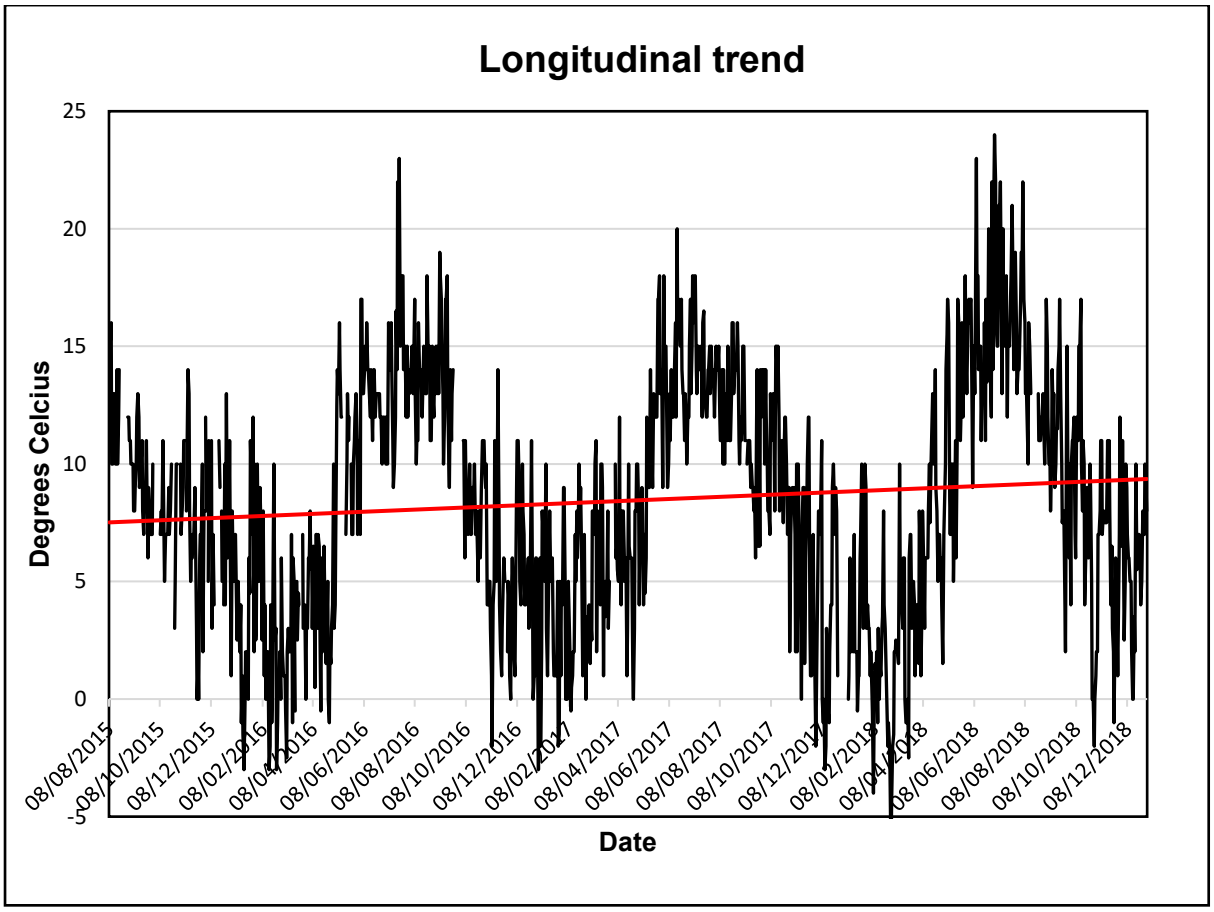
The above diagram shows the annual cycle for each of the four years, and it will not come as a surprise that it shows the summer months – June, July, August - to be warmer than the winter months – December, January, February. But what is also noticeable is that for the year 2018 just gone the early month were somewhat colder than in previous years due to the socalled ‘Beast from the East’ while the summer months were 2-3 degrees warmer than in previous years.

These observations are shown in a tabular form below and it is noted that annually the year 2018 was fractionally warmer than previous years.

	2015	2016	2017	2018
	<-----	Degrees Celcius		----->
Quarter 1		3.22	4.41	2.49
Quarter 2		8.91	8.70	11.31
Quarter 3	10.33	13.95	13.27	14
Quarter 4	7.46	6.17	7.88	6.79
Annual	8.58	8.02	8.64	8.66

Longitudinal evidence

We can now aggregate the readings for all four years into one graph and add a trend line as shown in the diagram below to provide a longitudinal view of the temperatures.



The trend line seems to show an increase in average temperature from about 7.5° C in August 2015 till nearly 10° C by the end of 2018.

As I have referred to above the readings are taken first thing in the morning, in winter months even before sunrise. They are therefore likely to be lower than temperatures discussed in scientific literature and referred to in radio and TV broadcasts.

Conclusion

As already indicated the above study is not scientific, even les a proof of anything. However, despite its shortcomings it is at least evidence. Perhaps it will make you the reader stop and think: If the warming of the climate is that obvious perhaps 'they' do have a point. Is it caused by man or is it part of greater changes in nature over which we have no control? In the first case: Can we afford to ignore that possibility and if that is so is it not time we cut out our bad habits? In the second case, just maybe cutting out our bad habits will help to alleviate the consequences of global warming.

The above information has been researched and compiled by Knud Møller at **KVM Research**. If you want to know more please look at my website www.kvmresearch.co.uk, give me a ring on 01782 499384 or send me an email on knudvmoller@gmail.com